



Rules for Experiences in Debate

Individual or institutional participants are invited to present projects and initiatives for the section *experiences in debate* within the scope of the conference 'Playing in Uncertainty and for Challenge' with the IPA promoter, Portuguese branch of the International Play Association, organized by Cascais City Council with scientific support from the Human Motricity Faculty, in the format described below.

In order for the experiments to be validated by the Scientific Committee, please fill in the online registration form (insert link), until March 25th.

Experiences proposed for debate should take no more than 10 minutes, during which the debate moderator will briefly introduce the participants and the theme of the experience being discussed. Each individual or institutional participant must summarize the most relevant points in each experience, and be prepared to answer some questions concerning key points in each described experience. Participants will then have a few minutes to answer each question, and in the end of the presentation, the general public will be given some time for Q&A.

Proposed experiences should fit one of the following threads:

1st Thread: To Play in Uncertainty – The culture of play goes across all ages. Due to the recent pandemic, time and space restraints in playing have increased for children, following constraints and limits in the contexts in which they play, conditioning physical and social spaces for individuals, families, and communities.

Scientific studies in this period have demonstrated that the deprivation of time and space for playing has negative consequences in children's development and well-being, impacting communities directly.

This thread points out the importance of safeguarding quality time for free play and in finding alternatives when needed, being paramount to debate the importance of playing in adverse contexts, sharing both creative and replicable experiences pursuing play throughout life.

2nd Thread: Play and Digital Technologies – Nowadays, most people use of technology is unavoidable, for its ever-constant presence is felt in schools and at home, serving both an entertaining and an educational purpose in our everyday lives.

In this thread, we will be sharing and debating digital play experiences, considering how to stimulate security awareness in the use of technology and cyberspace, whilst bearing in mind the primordial role of playing in the different contexts of everyday life, balancing screen time with other ways of playing.

3rd Thread: Play for Future Communities – 2020 will certainly be remembered for the pandemic and the many changes it has demanded from us, as a society. The way we relate to our work life and relationships, the way schools had to adapt to new learning methods and routines, our access to cultural events, and the use of public spaces, all of this will possibly need to be redesigned and profoundly transformed.

In this thread concretely, the subject theme is about the importance of playing, leisure times and recreation as absolutely central elements for the community's cohesion and sustainability. More specifically, it is intended to give special emphasis to the revitalization of public spaces and green spaces, associated with the implementation of local dynamics and initiatives that make it possible for the community to reappropriate these spaces as sharing places.

We are looking for the reinvention of playful spaces and materials, offering a balance between diversity, freedom and autonomy.

Shared experiences will have simultaneous translation to both Portuguese and English.

Speakers who would like to share an experience should prepare the presentation using one of the available templates, pin pointing the most relevant aspects in one of the two languages. This presentation might also include other media options, such as photographs, videos and other.

A total of 18 applications will be selected, based on the following criteria:

- Experiences should fit the conference main theme, responding to one of the threads suggested;
- Generic approaches should be avoided, giving preference to concrete actions;
- Theoretical presentations which don't correspond to concrete actions won't be considered;
- Innovative experiences are valued as a priority;
- Actions involving citizen's participation are also considered a priority;

Brief notes about Cascais:

The Cascais County is located on the coast of Portugal, being limited to the south and to the west by the Atlantic Ocean. It is integrated in the Lisbon and Tejo Valley region which is an integral part of the Lisbon Metropolitan Area. Cascais is administratively divided by six *parishes* (Cascais, Estoril, Alcabideche, Parede, Carcavelos and São Domingos de Rana) and has a total area of 97 km², with an average of 210 889 inhabitants. Cascais is thus recognized as a village that has a lot of connections with the sea and is very favored by its climate.

Cascais has been a member of the International Association of Educating Cities since 1997, being one of the councils represented at the International Congress of Educating Cities, whose initial commitment letter was celebrated in Barcelona in 1990.

The International Association of Educating Cities (IAEC) is a movement created in November 1990 with the purpose of strengthening relations between local governments to promote the educational value of urban space, promoting public policies and interventions which are able to transform cities in spaces conducive to human and citizen development, in accordance with the Principles of the Educating Cities.

In the Educating City, education transcends the school walls to permeate the entire city. An education for citizenship, in which all administrations assume their responsibility in education and in transforming the city into a space of respect for all life and diversity.

Other relevant aspects in the action of Cascais County:

- The Child Friendly Cities Program promoted by Unicef advocates the adoption of a coordinated policy for children and adolescents. Cascais in 2019 was awarded the seal "Friendly City".
- Flag of the Most Family Responsible County, awarded for the measures adopted in making life easier for families living in Cascais.
- In 2017, Cascais joined the Learning Cities Network, approved in 2013, in the Beijing Declaration on Lifelong Learning for Everyone: promoting inclusion, prosperity and sustainability in its cities.

Final Note:

All matters concerning the selection of the experiences in debate not specified in this document should be addressed to the Scientific Committee of this Conference.

Contact us at: ipa.european.cascais21@cm-cascais.pt. Cascais, January, 2021.